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## AMERICAN ANGUS ASSOCIATION

The Business Breed

November 5, 2002

TO: Jean Webb

Secretary to the CFTC Commission

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The Chicago Mercantile Exchange, on October 18, reduced spot months speculative limits on the live futures contract from 600 contracts to 300 contracts. While this may be conceived by some as a good move, considering that less than 15% of cattle are hedged, it appears the hedgers are quite influential.

By the same token, this same group proposes an increase in the maximum delivery weight to 1400 pounds, which, in accordance with logic, would allow the dumping of undesirable cattle.

While not involved intricately with this process, it appears no research relative to long-range industry effects was accomplished, or very little at most. Before an adequate decision is made, this issue should be broadly discussed with all segments of the industry that are affected.

Sincerely,

John Crouch

Executive Vice President

JC:mds